

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
September 20, 2022
10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Jody Kleckley, Committee Members Bill Reeside, David Ballard, John David Griffin (via conference call). *Quorum of Members Present.*

Absent: Lou Rasmussen (excused)

Others Present: Town Councilmember Bob Renner, Town Administrator Iris Hill, Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Utilities Director Patrick Zemp, Code Enforcement Officer Morgan Viars, Municipal Clerk Dee Stalvey, and Bill Bingham, American Engineering Consultants.

Call to Order

Chairman Kleckley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Ballard made a motion to approve the minutes of July 19, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reeside and unanimously approved.

Old Business

Update on Moratorium

- Mr. Bingham from American Engineering Consultants was present at this meeting. He provided the update on Lift Station B, which is under contract. Work will not begin until after king tide season, most likely in December/January and will be completed by April. Originally, the plan was to deal with both Lift Station A and B but the bid was double the expected cost, so then only Lift Station B was rebid since this project was more urgent. We will apply for more grant money from Rural Infrastructure for Lift Station A and for some of the other stations throughout the Town. We probably won't know of project approvals until the first quarter of 2023. Contractor is AAA Construction. The moratorium remains in place.

Update of Capital Improvements

- Town Administrator Hill noted most capital improvements have been included in the second grant application, and she is hoping we will get the most critical items in the grant approved.

Development of Process for Sewer Tap Approvals

- Mr. Ballard doesn't have anything new to add regarding the development of the process for sewer tap approvals since work is still being finalized by Administration regarding sewer tap information. Ms. Hill noted we forwarded sewer tap information to the Committee, but we are awaiting info on how many more buildable lots are located in Ocean Ridge and where they are located. The tap information is up to date, with 1074 taps currently. We will also take into account the certificates; there are perhaps four or five outstanding certificates. Once the Ocean Ridge information is received, we can then see how the flow/approvals will work on the chart.

Water and Wastewater RFP 2022-06/Bid Opening September 29, 2022

- Iris noted these proposals are due September 29th, then discussion time will be set with the selection committee. Presentations may be needed. Our current contracts expire in January 2023.

New Business

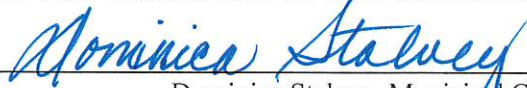
- Engineered Sewer Systems/American Engineering Consultants, Mr. Bill Bingham
 - Mr. Bingham discussed engineered systems versus traditional systems. Most counties have regulations regarding septic tank installations. DHEC conducts the survey and the seasonal high-water table on the property. DHEC established regulations note the septic tank cannot drain below the seasonal high-water because then it contaminates the water. DHEC has a host of regulations for the engineered systems.
 - Regarding Section 610 of DHEC regulations, which covers the engineered systems, an engineer and soil certified person must complete an onsite wastewater verification system to evaluate the site, and this is reported to DHEC. Most of this is based on the number of bedrooms. An engineered system can be just a septic tank, but they can also be more advanced. There may also be more advanced treatments.
 - How do we know if the engineered system isn't working properly? The drain field will not be able to drain because of the biological matting. What do we do for these circumstances in the future? There must be some repercussions to the homeowners. This applies to any sewer system. Educating homeowners is important as it concerns these septic systems and how to take care of them.
- Education
 - Mr. Reeside discussed the watershed project Edisto Beach is involved with, and the Director noted two applicants from the beach have applied for it. We are listed as a member or sponsor of the Watershed Alliance. Septic maintenance education is to be a part of this but no information has been provided on this yet. This could be a good source for educating homeowners. Ms. Hill noted we did have information in our Monthly Highlights at one time regarding septic maintenance, etc., but she's not sure of how many homeowners took note of this.
 - Mr. Kleckley noted we need to do more research before we send any recommendations to Council regarding the education of our homeowners.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ballard moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Reeside seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE



Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk
October 18, 2022